

## REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending. Claims 1-20 stand rejected. Applicant is amending claims 1, 10, and 19.

### Information Disclosure Statement

**The information disclosure statement filed February 7, 2002 fails to comply with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2), which requires a legible copy of each cited foreign patent document; each non-patent literature publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; and all other information or that portion which caused it to be listed.**

Applicant is filing a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement with legible copies of all foreign patent documents and non-patent literature publications. Applicant requests consideration of all cited references.

### Specification

In accordance with guidance provided by the Office Action, Applicant is amending the Abstract to be in the range between 50 to 150 words. Applicant has not added any new subject matter.

### Claim Objections

**Claims 1-20 are objected to because of the following informalities: the faxed copy of the listing of claims is not legible.**

The listing of claims filed with the response to the final Office Action dated August 30, 2005 is as follows:

### Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103

**Claims 1-20 are rejected by the Office Action under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,311,422 (Loftin) in view of “Accounting and Financial Fundamentals for Non Financial Executives” (Rachlin).**

Regarding claim 1, Applicant is amending the claim to include the feature of “evaluating progress toward the goal and providing a determined feedback having a feedback category based on an appropriate level of feedback and an appropriate training component that further motivates accomplishment of the accounting goal, the appropriate level of feedback being selected from the plurality of feedback levels based on an error severity of an associated response from the student,

the appropriate training component being selected from a plurality of training components and based on an amount of work contained in the associated response.” The amendment is supported by the specification as originally filed. For example, the specification discloses (Page 16, lines 5 – 9. Emphasis added.):

**Focusing on the educational components of completing a task is not enough.** As any teacher knows, student will often try and cheat their way through a task. Students may do no work and hope the teacher does not notice or the student may only do minor changes in hope of a hint or part of the answer. To accommodate these administrative functions, there are three additional administrative categories of feedback. **The administrative and the educational categories of feedback account for every piece of feedback a designer can write and a student can receive.**

The Office Action alleges that Loftin discloses (Page 4.):

...(e) evaluating progress toward a goal (col. 6, lines 55-59) and providing an appropriate level of feedback (col. 14, lines 8-9) that further motivates accomplishment of the accounting goal (col. 6, lines 55-59), the appropriate level of feedback being selected from the plurality of feedback levels based on an error severity of an associated response from the student (col. 14, lines 8-16); and ...

Loftin merely discloses providing feedback only based on errors made by a trainee. However, as disclosed in the present specification, focusing only on an educational component may not be sufficient when completing a task. For example, a student may submit only minor changes with respect to the previous submission. Loftin fails to even suggest the feature of “evaluating progress toward the goal and providing a **determined feedback having a feedback category based on** an appropriate level of feedback **and an appropriate training component** that further motivates accomplishment of the accounting goal, the appropriate level of feedback being selected from the plurality of feedback levels based on an error severity of an associated response from the student, **the appropriate training component being selected from a plurality of training components and based on an amount of work contained in the associated response.**” (Emphasis added.) Moreover, the deficiencies of Loftin are not remedied by Rachlin. Thus, claim 1 is patentable over Loftin in view of Rachlin.

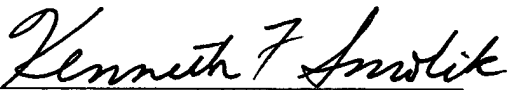
Applicant is similarly amending claim 10 to include the feature of “logic that evaluates progress toward the goal and provides a determined feedback having a feedback category based on an appropriate level of feedback and an appropriate training component that further motivates accomplishment of the accounting goal, the appropriate level of feedback being selected from the

plurality of feedback levels based on an error severity of an associated response from the student, the appropriate training component being selected from a plurality of training components and based on an amount of work contained in the associated response.” Also, Applicant is similarly amending claim 19 to include the feature of “evaluating progress toward the goal and providing a determined feedback having a feedback category based on an appropriate level of feedback and an appropriate training component that further motivates accomplishment of the accounting goal, the appropriate level of feedback being selected from the plurality of feedback levels based on an error severity of an associated response from the student, the appropriate training component being selected from a plurality of training components and based on an amount of work contained in the associated response.” Claims 2-9, 11-18, and 20 ultimately depend from independent claims 1, 10, and 19, respectively. Thus, claims 2-20 are patentable for at least the above reasons. Applicant requests reconsideration of claims 1-20.

It is respectfully submitted that the present patent application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: April 25, 2006



Kenneth F. Smolik  
Registration No. 44,344  
BANNER & WITCOFF, LTD.  
10 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 3000  
Chicago, IL 60606-7407  
Telephone: 312-463-5000  
Facsimile: 312-463-5001